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TO: Internal File

FROM: James D. Smith JDS

RE: Updates to Appendix 9, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/018-AM02A

SUMMARY:

This amendment to Appendix 9 (Hydrology) was received at the Division on January 12, 2002: Appendix 9 is common to the Deer Creek, Des-Bee-Dove, and Cottonwood-Wilberg MRPs. This amendment addresses temporary cessation of mining at Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine and relocation of UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 from Grimes Wash to the Trail Mountain Access intake portal in Cottonwood Canyon. Mining ceased on March 15, 2001 and all portals were sealed to MSHA specifications on May 28, 2001.

This amendment also clarifies that T-18 (Oliphant Mine Discharge) in Straight Canyon is monitored as a spring rather than as surface-water.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

MINING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528.

Analysis:

Facilities and Structures

For temporary cessation of mining at the Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine, the portals were sealed according to MSHA specifications. The Trail Mountain Access intake portal has been designed to serve as a drain during temporary cessation, and the Utah Division of Water Quality has approved relocation of UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 from Grimes Wash to this portal

TECHNICAL MEMO

Findings:

Information in this amendment on Mining Operations and Facilities is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the Coal Mining Rules.

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Ground-water monitoring

T-18 (Oliphant Mine Discharge) has been listed with the surface-water monitoring sites, although it is discharge of ground water from a mine opening, and water analyses have been done according to the ground-water parameter list. This amendment clarifies it is considered to be a spring and is a ground-water monitoring site.

UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 has been relocated from Grimes Wash to the Trail Mountain Access intake portal in Cottonwood Canyon. A new UPDES permit has been issued and a copy is included with the amendment. Discharge at UPDES outfall 001 to Grimes Wash was bioassayed from 1988 through 1992.

Surface-water monitoring

T-18 is being moved from the surface-water monitoring list to the ground-water monitoring list.

Gravity discharges

The Utah Division of Water Quality approved relocation of UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 from Grimes Wash to the Trail Mountain Access intake tunnel in Cottonwood Canyon on July 30, 2001. This portal is the lowest point for the Hiawatha Seam in the Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine, and during temporary cessation (mining ceased March 15, 2001) it has been designed as a drain for the mine. Seals within the mine restrict ground-water movement towards this portal.

The lowest portal for the Blind Canyon Seam is the intake portal in Deer Creek Canyon. This portal is located updip of nearby mine workings, and there is no direct flow path from higher elevation sections of the mine to the south, so gravity discharge from this portal is not anticipated.

Water quality standards and effluent limitations

The Utah Division of Water Quality approved relocation of UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 from Grimes Wash to the Trail Mountain Access intake tunnel in Cottonwood Canyon on July 30, 2001. There are no other changes in the monitoring plan or requirements for this location. A new UPDES permit has been issued and a copy is included with the amendment.

Findings:

Operational Hydrologic Information in this amendment is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the Coal Mining Rules.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

Analysis:

Monitoring and sample location maps

Maps HM-1 and HM-4 have been updated to show the new location of UPDES 0022896 outfall 001 at the Trail Mountain Access intake tunnel. These maps already indicated T-18 as a spring rather than a surface-water monitoring site, so there has been no change for T-18.

Findings:

Operational Maps, Plans, and Cross Sections of Mining Operations in this amendment is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the Coal Mining Rules.

CUMULATIVE HYDROLOGIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14; R645-301-730.

This amendment has no impact on the findings of the current East Mountain CHIA, which was prepared September 1994.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of this amendment is recommended.